

Appn. Number: 08/580,493

(Marked-up form of the submitted abstract for replacement:)

Abstract: A method [of] ~~for~~ making and a method ~~for~~ [of use of] ~~using~~ a [versatile] device designed to hold objects by clamping [without damaging them, said] ~~while preventing damage thereto.~~ This device [comprising the combination of:] ~~includes~~ a cylindrical support ~~part~~ (1) [like a rod or tube, not necessarily of circular cross-section; at least] ~~and~~ two [movable] arms (2) [capable of sliding along and assuming several positions about said support (1) and each extending some way beyond the support essentially at right angles;] ~~, each arm having a transverse hole and~~ at least one [substantially] ~~of these arms is carrying an~~ elastic buffer (3) secured [to one of the arms (2)] ~~thereto.~~ ~~This buffer possesses a contact face and has under its contact face a thickness large enough so that said buffer acts as a compression spring when his contact face contacts the surface of one of the objects.~~ ~~And this buffer is resilient enough such that his contact face can flex and pivot to substantially conform to this surface.~~ The support part is disposed within the transverse hole of each arm such that at least one of these arms is movable along the support part. And the buffer is disposed at a distance from [said] ~~the~~ support [(1) and having, opposite the arm to which it is secured, a supporting surface essentially] ~~part with its contact face approximately at a right [angles] angle to [the support] it.~~

REMARKS

Following the Notice of Allowance mailed 2002, June 17, an amendment to the specification pursuant to rule 312 is submitted. It is petitioned with deference to replace the current specification with the new substitute specification, which is submitted below accompanied by the corresponding marked-up substitute specification. Additionally, an express mail sent 2002, September 12, Thu ought to reach to reach the USPTO on 2002, September 16, Mon for submitting an amendment to the drawings to correct two errors in numbering reference characters - to comply with Rule 84 (p)/(4) & (5) - on drawing sheets 4 and 5. Within the new substitute specification, an amendment to the continuation data is suggested to put it more in conformity with 35 U.S.C. 120 and M.P.E.P. 201.11 requirements.

The rest of the amendments to the specification aims at correcting a few grammatical and logical errors.

First of all, it is proposed to amend the paragraph extending from line 17 to line 24, page 2 to remedy the lack of grammatical agreement between "can", line 21 and "remaining", line 22 of same page, by turning "remaining" into "remain".

Secondly, it is submitted several corrections in the section extending from line 25, page 2 to line 3, page 9, i. e.:

- (a) replacing for the sake of consistency, all "helping hands" that are not hyphenated with "helping-hands" (lines 8-9 of page 3, lines 20, 22, 24, 25-26, 29, 30, 35 of page 6, and line 10 of page 7);
- (b) replacing the long hyphen between "pin" and "shaped" with a regular short one, line 42, page 3;
- (c) replacing "clothes peg" with "clothespin", lines 4, 5 and 9, page 4, because "clothes peg" for "clothespin" is not given in both eminent dictionaries of the American English language, Merriam-Webster and American Heritage Dictionaries;
- (d) replacing "as" with "that" after "So" and inserting "could" before "be", line 14, page 4, to remove a syntax error in the phrase written same line;
- (e) replacing periods with semicolons, lines 24 and 26 of page 4 and lines 35 and 37 of page 8, to keep a continuity between the 4 different steps of the operation of clamping that is described from line 20 to line 34 of page 4, and from line 29 to line 42 of page 8;
- (f) replacing "unlike" with "as" after "arms", line 38, page 4, to be consistent with the phrase "distributed not along the arms" written same line;

- (g) replacing "which" with "that" after "arms", line 42, page 4, because the phrase "four movable arms" is the most important information of the sentence written lines 42 and 43 of same page;
- (h) inserting "face" after "buffer contact", line 8, page 5, for the sake of consistency with what it precedes;
- (i) deleting "of" after "exerting", line 11, page 5, because "exert" is a transitive verb;
- (j) inserting "and pushed apart" after "support part", line 20, page 5, for the sake of exactitude;
- (k) deleting "the" in front of "clamping", line 22, page 5, for giving a better American English wording to this line;
- (l) replacing "an" with "a" before "horizontal" and "can" with "could" before "hold", line 42, page 5, for improving syntax;
- (m) replacing, for the sake of consistency, all "helping hand" that are not hyphenated with "helping-hand" (line 43, page 5 and line 3, page 6);
- (n) inserting a comma after "clamping", line 9, page 6 and another comma after "other buffer", line 10, same page, to narrow the connection between the two following phrases: "locked by clamping" and "at an angle not equal to zero" for the sake of clearness;
- (o) replacing "crocodile" with "alligator", lines 25 and 27, page 6, because although "crocodile clip" is the British English synonym for "alligator clip", this group of words is never mentioned, with this sense or not, in both eminent dictionaries of the American English language, Merriam-Webster and American Heritage Dictionaries;
- (p) replacing "part" with "arm" after "movable", line 2, page 7, for the sake of consistency with what it precedes;
- (q) inserting a comma after "couplers", line 11, page 7, because the phrase "extending a support part with support parts having a different section by couplers" is the most important information of the sentence starting with "It can be also contemplated", line 10, and ending with "diameters", line 12, same page;
- (r) inserting "of" after "arrangement", line 14, page 7, for a better syntax;
- (s) inserting a hyphen between "big" and "section", line 14, page 7, because this group of words serves as a single adjective;
- (t) replacing "radial clamping" with "radial-clamping", lines 16, 29 and 30, page 7, "T clamping" with "T-clamping" and "cross clamping" with "cross-clamping", line 25, same page, "T one" with "T-one", "cross one" with "cross-

- one", "radial one" with "radial-one", line 29, same page, "angle clamping" with "angle-clamping", "staple clamping" with "staple-clamping", and "bridge clamping" with "bridge-clamping", line 26, page 8, for the sake of consistency with the eminent dictionaries of the American English language, Merriam-Webster and American Heritage Dictionaries, where hyphenating is used for combinations of words like "cross" with most present participles and words;
- (u) replacing "assembleur" with "assembler" after "Spreading with an", line 34, page 7, for the sake of consistency with the rest of the specification;
 - (v) replacing "covering clamping" with "cover-clamping", lines 41-42, page 7, and line 8, page 8, for giving a better American English look to this group of words, in particular to avoid repetitious use of present participle;
 - (w) inserting a colon after "is", line 1, page 8, to direct attention to what follows;
 - (x) replacing "of holding" with "to hold" after "permits", line 30, page 8, for a better understanding of the phrase extending from "which" to "by clamping" on same line.

Thirdly, it is submitted two corrections in the section extending from line 4 to line 41, page 9, i. e.:

- (a) replacing "6" with "5" to start line 4, page 9, for the title of the section, because there is already a section No. 6 and no section No. 5;
- (b) replacing, for the sake of consistency, "helping hand" with "helping-hand", lines 18 and line 21, page 9.

Fourthly, it is submitted several corrections in the section extending from last line of page 9 to last line of page 14, i. e.:

- (a) replacing the period with a semicolon, line 4, page 10, to keep a continuity between the 3 different components of the combination that is described from line 1 to line 13, same page;
- (b) replacing "of" with "or" between "plastic" and "metal", line 22, page 10, to eliminate an unlikelihood;
- (c) replacing "needing" with "the need" after "without", line 29, page 10, for giving a better American English look to the phrase written on this line;
- (d) replacing periods with semicolons, lines 36 and 38 of page 11, to keep a continuity between the 4 different steps of the operation of clamping that is described from line 31 to last line of same page;
- (e) inserting "and pushed apart" after "support part", line 23, page 12 for the sake of exactitude;
- (f) deleting "the" in front of "clamping", line 25, page 12 for giving a better American English wording to this line;

Appn. Number: 08/580,493

- (g) replacing, for the sake of consistency, "radial clamping" with "radial-clamping", lines 7 and 24, page 13, and "cross clamping" with "cross-clamping", line 21, same page;
- (h) replacing "8" with "10", lines 34 and 37, page 13, because "10" is the actual reference character for the coupler on Fig. 9 and that rule 84 (p) (5) must be logically complied with;
- (i) inserting "be" after "will", line 36, page 14, because it is obviously missing.

An amended text for the abstract is suggested. This text would be more in conformity with the amended wording for the claims.

Applicant thanks again the Examiner for his constructive assistance pursuant to M.P.E.P. §707.07 (j).

Very Respectfully submitted.

Philippe BERNA

Philippe Berna, Applicant Pro Se

Mailing Address: Mas Liotard - Les Brousses, 30410 Molières-sur-Cèze, France; Phone and Fax Number: (33) 46 624 3518